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DATE: August 18, 2004 OUR REF: NGB-106-A YOUR REF. USSN 09/997,334

TO (COMPANY) : US Patent & Trademark Office, Art Unit 3616

ATTN: Eric D. Culbreth

FROM : Joseph P. Carrier

FAX NO. CALLED: (703) 872-9306 NO. OF PAGES (Including this page) 18

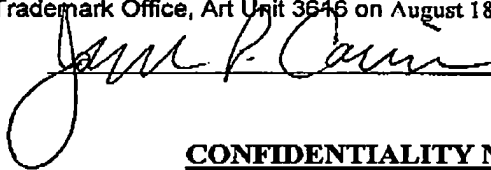
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Attorney Docket No. : NGB-106-A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Sato et al.
Serial No.: 09/997,334
Filed: 30 November 2001
Group Art Unit: 3616
Examiner: Culbreth, Eric D.
Confirmation No.: 4987
Title: **AIR BAG SYSTEM**

AMENDMENT-E

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated 18 May 2004, please amend the application as discussed herein.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper. .

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.